



Wetlands Program at The Home Show March 2004



Prepared for the public.



Speaking with an attendee.



Answering questions.



Explaining the Fish Kill.

DEM Participates in Home Show Again in 2004

The DEM Wetlands Protection and Water programs participated in the Rhode Island Home Show for the second year this March. Wetlands, ISDS and other Water program managers and staff were present to answer questions and provide a variety of materials to take home. More than 7500 pieces of literature including fact sheets and educational brochures were distributed to those who had questions, almost four times as many as the previous year.

The booth was an excellent opportunity for the public, especially those purchasing land with wetland or those expanding their homes, to gain a better understanding about the Wetlands and Water permitting programs, meet managers and staff, and ask questions in person. There were also many teachers who visited the booth and were able to take home new materials, curriculum lists, and posters for their classrooms. All attendees were able to learn more about wetlands and why they are important to Rhode Island.

There was also a display about last summer's Greenwich Bay Fish Kill, actions being undertaken to address the problem, and steps that individuals could take to help prevent events like this from occurring again. Attendees took home wetland magnets, pens and posters from the booth. Informational handouts were also available on hunting, fishing, shell fishing, tourism, agriculture, and land conservation.

Over 30,000 attended during the five day RIBA Home Show, which proved to be great venue for DEM and an overall positive experience for both attendees and staff who were involved.

